April 2006 Newsletter

<u>Summary:</u> On April 6, 2006, Technical Stakeholders of the 2008 Medic One/EMS Levy Planning process met to review the newly proposed Draft Recommendations for levy services, programs and costs.

The recommendations put forth at this meeting propose a substantial increase in program costs for the next levy in comparison to the current 2002-2007 levy.

- The projected costs of the current 2002-2007 levy are \$344.3 million.
- Projected costs of a six-year levy beginning in 2008 are \$712.4 million.

This translates to a preliminary levy rate of \$.3825 per \$1000, an amount is well outside the historic range of EMS levies in King County, which have varied between \$.25 per \$1,000 and \$.29 per \$1,000 in most recent levies.

After examining the proposals, the Stakeholders requested that subsequent Subcommittee meetings be held in April to develop a range of alternate recommendations that fall within the historic levy range. All 3 Subcommittees met to focus on setting clear funding priorities, and developing and finalizing those other options discussion at the next Stakeholders group in May.

Meeting Schedule

May 4, 2006: *Stakeholders Meeting* (1st Thursday of each month) from 1:00 PM- 3:00 PM at Renton Fire Station #14 (1900 Lind Avenue SW, Renton).

May 11, 2006: *BLS Subcommittee Meeting* (2nd Thursday of each month) from 1:30PM-3:30PM at Mercer Island Fire Station #91 (3030 78th Avenue SE, Mercer Island).

May 16, 2006: *ALS Subcommittee Meeting* (3rd Tuesday of each month) from 1:00PM-3:00PM at Kirkland Fire Station #22, (6602 108th Avenue NE, Kirkland)

May 23, 2006: *Regional Services/ Strategic Initiatives Subcommittee Meeting* (4th Tuesday of each month) from 10:00AM-12:00PM at Mercer Island Fire Station #91 (3030 78th Ave SE, Mercer Island).

If you have any questions about the levy process, or are interested in obtaining copies of meeting notes or updates, please contact **Helen Chatalas** at (206) 296-4598 or by e-mail at helen.chatalas@metrokc.gov. These documents are also accessible at the EMS homepage (http://www.metrokc.gov/health/ems).